20 November 2026

RE: Official letter to Mr. Kurtis Lindqvist, ICANN President and CEO – Telecommunications Regulatory Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Mr. Dilshod Kuryozov
Director
Telecommunications Regulatory Agency of Uzbekistan
Tashkent city, Yashnabad district, Makhtumkuli street, 114a

Dear Mr. Kuryozov,

Thank you for your letter, dated 23 October 2026, explaining the role and responsibilities of the Telecommunications Regulatory Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "the Agency"). We appreciate your interest in strengthening cooperation between the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the Agency.

We acknowledge the Agency's responsibilities concerning the regulation of the .uz country code top-level domain (ccTLD), including the establishment of rules governing the registration and use of domain names under .uz, as outlined in your letter.

We also take note of your request for ICANN to refer relevant domain name-related matters to the Agency.

I wish to point out that ICANN does not administer individual country code top-level domain (ccTLD) registrations or adjudicate domain name disputes. Disputes involving ccTLD domain names are generally handled in accordance with the applicable policies and dispute resolution procedures established for the respective ccTLDs, which may be subject to national laws and regulations. Disputes concerning ***generic*** top-level domain (gTLD) registrations fall within the scope of the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and are addressed through proceedings administered by ICANN-approved dispute resolution service providers.

On these last points, we wish to confirm your awareness of the program currently underway to evaluate applications for new gTLDs. We have prepared a document explaining the program and the role of Governments in the process. Enclosed with this letter you will find further details about this program.

The new gTLD program, like all ICANN global policies, was developed via established mechanisms that facilitate communication, cooperation, and participation among governments, ccTLD managers, the domain name industry, the technical community, civil society, private businesses, and other stakeholders worldwide. These mechanisms provide valuable opportunities to exchange information, share experiences, and contribute to discussions and policy development processes within ICANN's remit.

We encourage the Agency to explore opportunities to engage through the following ICANN community structures:

- Country Code Top-Level Domain Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)

  The ccNSO is a supporting organization that provides a global platform for ccTLD managers to exchange information, share best practices, and address matters of common interest. It also facilitates policy development on a limited range of ccTLD-related matters within ICANN's remit.

  We note that the manager of .uz is not currently represented among ccNSO members. We encourage the Agency to explore opportunities for enrollment of the .uz ccTLD manager. Information regarding the designated manager of .uz is publicly available through the IANA Root Zone Database.

- Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

  The GAC serves as the principal mechanism for governments and intergovernmental organizations to provide input on matters within ICANN's remit. Established under the ICANN Bylaws, the GAC provides advice to the ICANN Board on the activities of ICANN as they relate to concerns of governments, particularly matters where there may be an interaction between ICANN's policies and various laws and international agreements or where they may affect public policy issues.

  We would welcome the Government of Uzbekistan's participation in the GAC. This would provide valuable opportunities to contribute to global discussions on Internet governance matters within ICANN's remit, exchange perspectives with government counterparts, and strengthen communication with ICANN and the broader Internet community.

We welcome the opportunity to explore potential areas of cooperation and identify practical ways to strengthen our engagement, taking note of your proposal to convene a working meeting to explore areas of mutual interest and discuss the possibility of establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Agency and ICANN. For your reference, please find examples of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) previously signed by ICANN at the following link: https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/partnership-mous-en

To facilitate these discussions, I have asked Mr. Christopher Mondini and Ms. Seher Sağıroğlu Ayhan from ICANN's Global Stakeholder Engagement team to coordinate directly with Mr. Bekzod Iskandarov to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time.

This meeting would provide an opportunity for ICANN to better understand the Agency's priorities, clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of our organizations, and explore potential avenues for cooperation, including your suggestion of an MoU.

We value the Agency's interest in engaging with ICANN and look forward to developing a constructive and mutually beneficial relationship that supports the security, stability, and interoperability of the global Internet while serving the needs of Internet users in Uzbekistan.

Respectfully,

Kurt Erik Lindqvist
President and Chief Executive Officer
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

November 2026

RE: ICANN's New gTLD Program - 2026

Mr. Dilshod Kuryozov
Director
The Telecommunications Regulatory Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Dear Dishod Kuryozov,

ICANN, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, is the global nonprofit, public-benefit organization responsible for coordinating domain names and Internet protocol addresses around the world, ensuring the stable and secure operation of the Domain Name System (DNS). Without that coordination, we would not have one global Internet.

I'm writing to inform you about an important global Internet initiative launching in April 2026 that merits your government's active involvement. For the first time in more than a decade, organizations around the world will have the chance to apply for a new generic top-level domain (gTLD). A gTLD is the part of a domain name that comes after the last dot. For example, in the web address www.icann.org, "org" is the gTLD.

Whether building a brand, spotlighting a geographic region or city on the world stage, or launching a business to offer domain names under a new registry, a new gTLD can be a powerful tool for commerce and communication. The New gTLD Program: Next Round will allow the creation of domain names that reflect local languages, cultures, and identities, thereby promoting inclusivity and diversity in the digital economy. They will also be available in diverse scripts.

Governments are represented in the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) - a key component of ICANN. The GAC, comprising representatives from over 180 national governments, provides advice to the ICANN Board of Directors on public policy issues that relate to the DNS and ICANN's technical remit, ensuring that the interests and concerns of governments are adequately represented in ICANN's multistakeholder decision-making processes. Through membership in the GAC, a government has an opportunity to participate in discussions related to the New gTLD Program and other Internet governance issues.

Where can your government play a role?

Mechanisms for Governments to Engage in the New gTLD Program

Applications by various organizations around the world will be received and evaluated in early 2026. The "strings" - specific domain extensions applied for - will be made public shortly thereafter. *There are several mechanisms available for governments to provide input on these applications* during the assessment period for the next round of gTLDs:

1. **Public Comment Proceedings**: Throughout the gTLD application process, ICANN provides opportunities for public input on gTLD applications. Governments can submit their views on specific applications or policy proposals during these periods, ensuring that their perspectives are considered in the evaluation of applications.

2. **Formal Objections and Appeals**: Objections may be filed against new gTLD applications by third parties – including other applicants – on four distinct grounds: string confusion, legal rights, limited public interest, and community. Applicants are therefore encouraged to identify possible regional, cultural, or property interests, or other sensitivities regarding gTLD strings and their uses before applying and, where possible, consult with interested parties to mitigate any concerns in advance.

3. **Letters of support to applicants**: Governmental institutions with jurisdiction over specific geographies, cities, and or municipalities may be asked to endorse applications for geographic domain names by writing letters in support of those applications.

4. **GAC Member Early Warning**: Governments that are members of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) can issue an Early Warning to a new gTLD applicant if a specific gTLD application raises concerns. This mechanism facilitates proactive dialogue and resolution by allowing governments to alert applicants to potential issues before the application process progresses.

5. **GAC Consensus Advice**: The GAC can provide formal advice to ICANN regarding specific gTLD applications or broader policy issues. This advice is taken into consideration during the decision-making process, ensuring that government perspectives are integrated into ICANN's actions.

6. **Engagement with ICANN Staff**: Governments are encouraged to consult with their GAC representative and engage directly with ICANN staff to discuss any questions or concerns they may have regarding the gTLD Program.

We strongly encourage your government to take advantage of these mechanisms to ensure that your country's interests are well represented in the next round of the new gTLD program. Engaging in this process will not only help safeguard your national interests, but also contribute to the broader goals of enhancing competition and inclusivity in the digital economy.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Should you require further information or wish to discuss this initiative in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Chris Mondini
Regional Vice President, ICANN

Enclosure: gTLD fact sheet